

**To the Honble Sir William Gooch, Bart. His Majesty's Lieutenant-governor, and Commander in chief, of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia. The humble address of the Council. [Williamsburg, 1748] [Negative photostat.].**

TO THE Honble. Sir WILLIAM GOOCH, Bart. His Majesty's Lieutenant-Governor, and Commander in Chief, of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA, THE Humble ADDRESS OF THE COUNCIL.

SIR,

WE His Majesty's faithful Subjects, the Council of *Virginia*, now assembled, most cordially return your Honour our dutiful Thanks for your affectionate Speech at the Opening of this Session, and your tender and constant Concern for the Reputation and Happiness of this Colony.

THE Sense of your incessant Labour to promote the general Welfare demands our most grateful Acknowledgments, and renders us eager to embrace all the Means in our Power that can tend towards the Accomplishment of your good and glorious Intentions: Vouchsafe, Sir, to accept our sincerest Promises of studying to alleviate your weighty Cares of Government, and to deserve the many and singular Advantages we enjoy under it. The constant Tenor of our Conduct will induce you to believe, we shall always pay a due Regard to every Particular you are pleased to recommend to our Attention, being fond of demonstrating, upon all Occasions, an equal Zeal for the common Interest; and ever ambitious of imitating your Example, and meriting the Publick Applause.

WE further, Sir, intreat you to be persuaded, that, as we can never too much boast of our Felicity, or too often repeat our Admiration of your Wisdom and Lenity, from which it is derived; the Consideration of our own Interest, inforced by the highest Sentiments of Gratitude and Duty, will determine us most firmly to adhere to these Resolutions, and to approve ourselves in every Instance an obedient as well as happy People. Indulge us, Sir, in the Liberty of concluding with these ardent Wishes, that whether You or We have the Public Good most at Heart, may be the sole and lasting Subject of Contention between Us, and whether You or this Country most fervently pray for each other's Prosperity, may continue a Doubt to distant Ages undecided. To

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C.O.5. 1327.

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To which ADDRESS His Honour was pleased to make the following ANSWER:

Gentlemen of the Council,

*I RETURN you my hearty Thanks for this affectionate and dutiful Address. The great Esteem you are pleased to express for me, and Satisfaction under my Administration, is the most agreeable Recompence I could desire, for an inflexible Attention to the Welfare of the Colony.*

*I confide in the Assurance you give me, of paying a due Regard to what I recommended to your Consideration; and am persuaded, we shall have no other Contention, than who shall approve himself most stedfastly attach'd to the Public Good.*